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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/838,342	04/20/2001	Akihiro Sugiyama	Q64164	1068

7590

05/23/2003

SUGHRUE, MION, ZINN, MACPEAK & SEAS  
2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20037

EXAMINER

FLEURANTIN, JEAN B

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2172

DATE MAILED: 05/23/2003

3

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/838,342

Applicant(s)

SUGIYAMA, AKIHIRO

Examiner

Jean B Fleurant

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120**

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

**DETAILED ACTION**

1. Claims 1-21 are presented for examination.

***Priority***

2. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

Claims 1- 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hecksel et al. (US Pat. No. 6,151,707)(“ Hecksel”).

As per claims 1 and 11, Hecksel teaches a user registration supporting system which supports a user, who uses a multi-component product including a plurality of products provided by a plurality of companies, in applying for user registration for the plurality of products (see col.

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2, lines 33-37) as claimed, said system comprises a user-information database which stores user information including a plurality of data items and regarding the user (thus, registration software program 24 may access a memory 26 in the form of any volatile or non-volatile storage and retrieval device on computer 11, memory 26 may include a variety of registration information and instructions to assist in operation of registration software program 24, throughout this document, the term 'registration information' refers to any information relating to characteristics of the user, characteristics of system 10, usage statistics, responses to previous requests for user data, answers to survey questions, registration profile data; which is equivalent to a user-information database which stores user information including a plurality of data items and regarding the user)(see col. 4, lines 3-12);

a user-information providing section which provides said user-information database with the user information (thus, modifying registration information associated with a particular software program 34, presenting the user with survey questions or marketing information associated with software program 34, collecting statistics relating to the use of software program 34; which is readable as a user-information providing section which provides said user-information database with the user information)(see col. 4, lines 22-26); and

a to-be-registered information generating section which extracts at least one data item required by each of the plurality of companies for the user registration, from the user information stored in said user-information database, and generates to-be-registered information used by each of the plurality of companies for the user registration (thus, a system and method for accessing previously stored registration information to assist a user in a current software program registration; which readable as a to-be-registered information generating section which extracts

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at least one data item required by each of the plurality of companies for the user registration, from the user information stored in said user-information database, and generates to-be-registered information used by each of the plurality of companies for the user registration)(see col. 2, lines 24-26), and

wherein said system can generate the to-be-registered information for the plurality of companies at once, based on the user information (thus, System 10 may generate the chronology table as it processes session data, or the chronology table may have been previously created and stored in registration profile 30 during initial registration of software program 34a)(see col. 13, lines 27-31).

As per claims 2, 3 and 13, in addition to the discussion in claim 1, Hecksel further teaches a company information database which stores specification information for specifying the at least one data item required by a plurality of companies for the user registration (see col. 5, lines 38-42).

As per claims 4 and 12, the limitations of claims 4 and 12 are rejected in the analysis of claim 1, and these claims are rejected on that basis.

As per claims 5, 6, 15 and 16, in addition to the discussion in claim 1, Hecksel further teaches wherein said user information includes identification information for identifying the multi-component product used by the user (thus, the method includes a section 300 'figure 3a' to generate a list of software programs residing on, or accessible to computer 11, a section 350 'figure 3b' to identify a matching software program, and a section 380 'figure 3c' to complete the registration session based on information associated with the matching software program;

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which is readable as further wherein said user information includes identification information for identifying the multi-component product used by the user)(see col. 9, lines 30-36);

said company-information database stores information regarding the plurality of companies providing the products according to multi-component product (see col. 5, lines 36-42).

As per claims 7 and 8, in addition to the discussion in claim 1, Hecksel further teaches a communications section which is connected, through a network, to a plurality of company terminals used respectively by the plurality of companies providing the plurality of products (thus, remote server that receives, stores and distributes information among a variety of remote devices; which is equivalent to a communications section which is connected, through a network, to a plurality of company terminals used respectively by the plurality of companies providing the plurality of products)(see col. 5, lines 3-8).

As per claims 9 and 19, in addition to the discussion in claim 1, Hecksel further teaches, wherein the user information is correction information which is formed by correcting the user information stored in said user-information database (thus, post-registration activity periods may be stored in configuration files to promote modification of registration and marketing data as updates become necessary without requiring modification to the registration software program; which is equivalent to wherein the user information is correction information which is formed by correcting the user information stored in said user-information database)(see col. 2, lines 62-65).

As per claim 10, the limitations of claim 10 are rejected in the analysis of claim 1, and this claim is rejected on that basis.

As per claim 14, the limitations of claim 14 are rejected in the analysis of claim 1, and this claim is rejected on that basis.

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As per claim 17, Hecksel teaches the method as claimed, further comprises sending the to-be-registered information which is generated by said generating to a plurality of company terminals which are used respectively by the plurality of companies providing the products, through a network (see col. 5, lines 3-8).

As per claim 18, Hecksel teaches the method as claimed, further comprises receiving the user information from a user terminal used by the user through a network (see col. 5, lines 3-8), and

wherein said storing includes providing the user-information database with the user information which is received by said receiving (see col. 5, lines 36-42)

As per claim 20, the limitations of claim 20 are rejected in the analysis of claims 1 and 7, and this claim is rejected on that basis.

As per claim 21, Hecksel teaches a computer readable recording medium which records a program for controlling a computer to execute: storing user information including a plurality of data items regarding a user who uses a multi-component product including a plurality of products provided by a plurality of companies (thus, the selected registration information includes registration information and/or responses to survey questions provided by a user or otherwise obtained during a previous registration session for a matching software program, designated by the reference numeral 34n, software programs 34 are considered matching if they share a common attribute, such as the user, the national language of the software program, the publisher of the software program or common registration information, the term 'publisher' refers to the technology provider, software publisher, information gatherer, company, or other entity having an interest in distributing, collecting, maintaining, and utilizing registration and/or marketing

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information related to software program 34; which is readable as : storing user information including a plurality of data items regarding a user who uses a multi-component product including a plurality of products provided by a plurality of companies)(see col. 5, lines 29-42); and

extracting a data item required by each of the plurality of companies for user registration, from the stored user information, and generating to-be-registered information used by each of the plurality of companies for the user registration (thus, a system and method for accessing previously stored registration information to assist a user in a current software program registration; which readable as extracting a data item required by each of the plurality of companies for user registration, from the stored user information, and generating to-be-registered information used by each of the plurality of companies for the user registration)(see col. 2, lines 24-26).

### ***Conclusion***

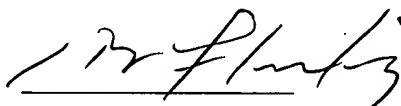
4. Any inquiry concerning this communication from examiner should be directed to Jean Bolte Fleurantin at (703) 308-6718. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 7:30 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.

If any attempt to reach the examiner by telephone is unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mrs. KIM VU can be reached at (703) 305-8449. The FAX phone numbers for the Group 2100 Customer Service Center are: ***After Final*** (703) 746-7238, ***Official*** (703) 746-7239, and ***Non-Official*** (703) 746-7240. NOTE: Documents transmitted by facsimile will be entered as official documents on the file wrapper unless clearly marked "***DRAFT***".



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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group 2100 Customer Service Center receptionist whose telephone numbers are (703) 306-5631, (703) 306-5632, (703) 306-5633.



Jean Bolte Fleurantin

2003-05-11

JBF/

  
JEAN M. CORRIELUS  
PRIMARY EXAMINER